

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1-9 (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A tire tread rubber composition comprising 20 to 95 parts by weight of an aromatic vinyl-conjugated diene copolymer rubber (A), 5 to 50 parts by weight of a conjugated diene-based rubber gel (B) having a toluene swelling index of 16 to 70 and 0 to 50 parts by weight of another diene-based rubber (C), wherein the total weight of rubber is 100 parts by weight and wherein the copolymer rubber (A) has a glass transition temperature TgA of -40°C to -5°C and wherein the TgA and the TgB of the glass transition temperature of the conjugated diene based rubber gel (B) satisfy the following formula (1):

$$\text{TgA} - 10 < \text{TgB} < \text{TgA} + 10 \quad (1)$$

$$\text{TgA} - 8 < \text{TgB} < \text{TgA} + 8 \quad (1)$$

11. (Original) A tire tread rubber composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein said conjugated diene-based rubber gel has a Mooney viscosity ML_{1+4} (100°C) of 90 to 140.

12. (Previously Presented) A tire tread rubber composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein said conjugated diene-based rubber gel includes 48.9 to 98.9% by weight of a conjugated diene monomer unit, 50 to 1% by weight of an aromatic vinyl monomer unit and 0.1 to 1.5% by weight of a polyfunctional vinyl monomer unit.

13. (Previously Presented) A tire tread rubber composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein said rubber composition further contains 10 to 150 parts by weight of carbon black having a nitrogen absorption specific surface area N_2SA of 70 to 350 m^2/g and 0 to 150 parts by weight of silica.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16-20 (Cancelled)